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# Neutron Capture Experiments - Filling Nuclear Data Needs for Safeguards

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August 3, 2015

INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR MATERIALS MANAGEMENT  
Indian Wells, CA, United States  
July 12, 2015 through July 16, 2015

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# *Neutron Capture Experiments – Filling Nuclear Data Needs for Safeguards*

**Non Destructive Assay Working Group Meeting**

**International Nuclear Materials Management**

Brad Sleaford

July 12, 2015

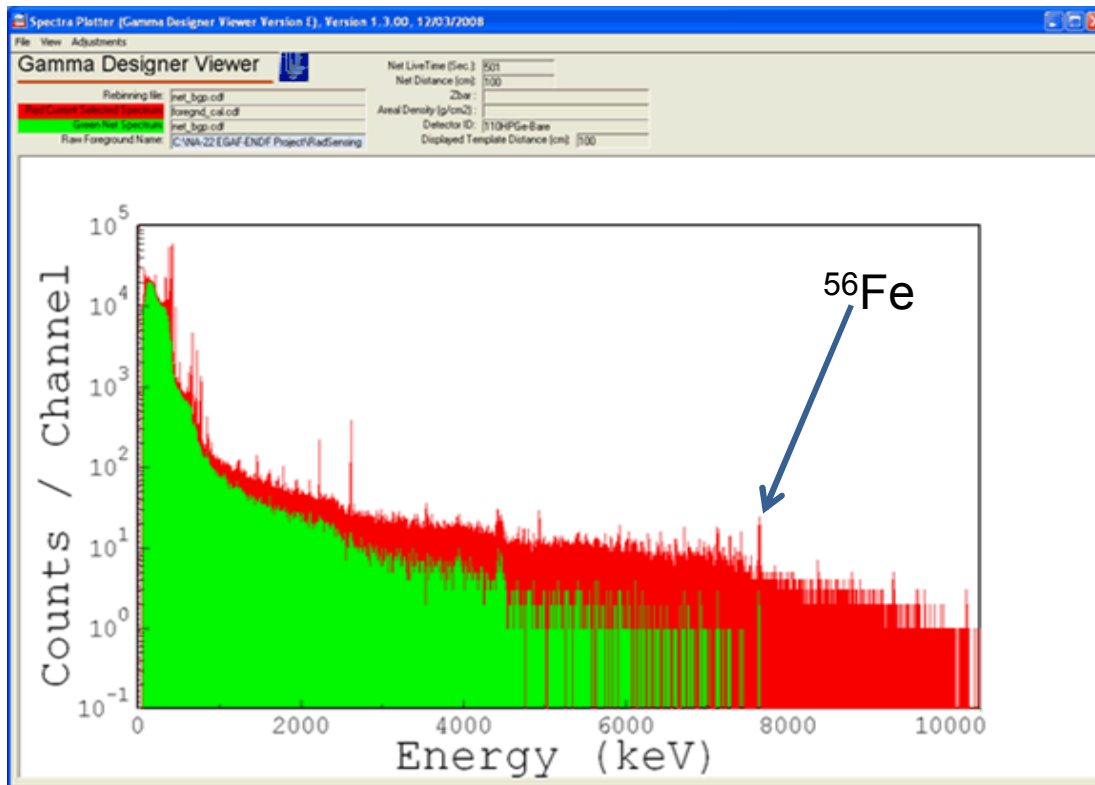
LLNL-CONF-675653

This work was performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under contract DE-AC52-07NA27344. Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC



- Nuclear Data upgrades for Transport Modeling
- Neutron Capture gamma spectroscopy,
- HPGe detectors

Measurement of gamma spectra from Pu mass-> Want to Model This



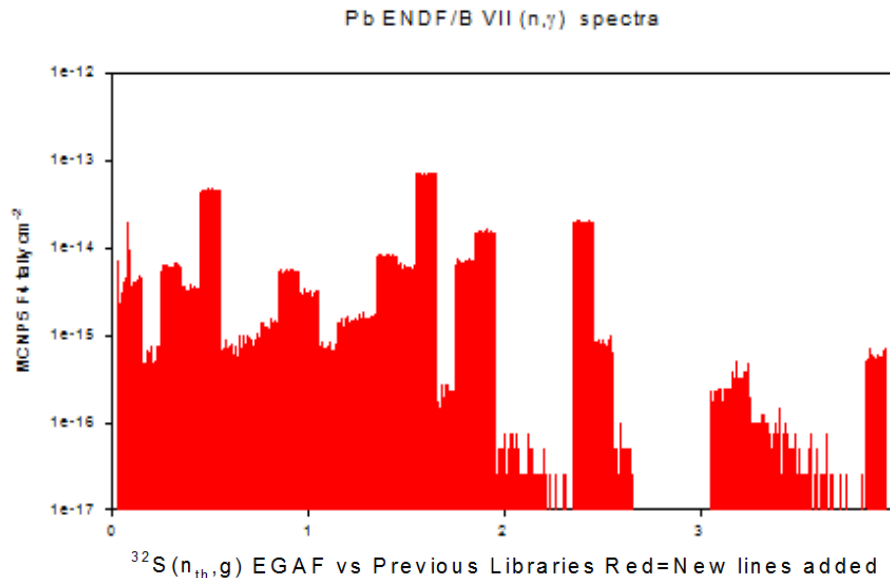
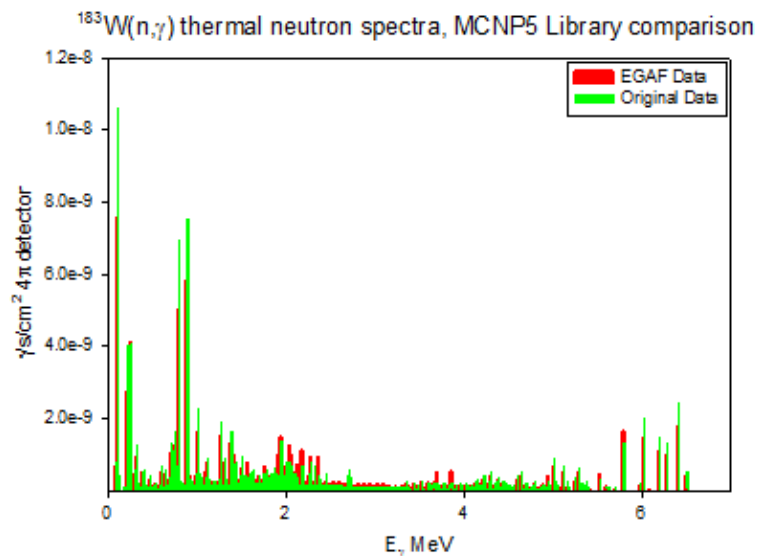
### Capture Gammas:

- High Energies to 12 MeV
- Fingerprint of Isotope
- Neutrons=Actinides

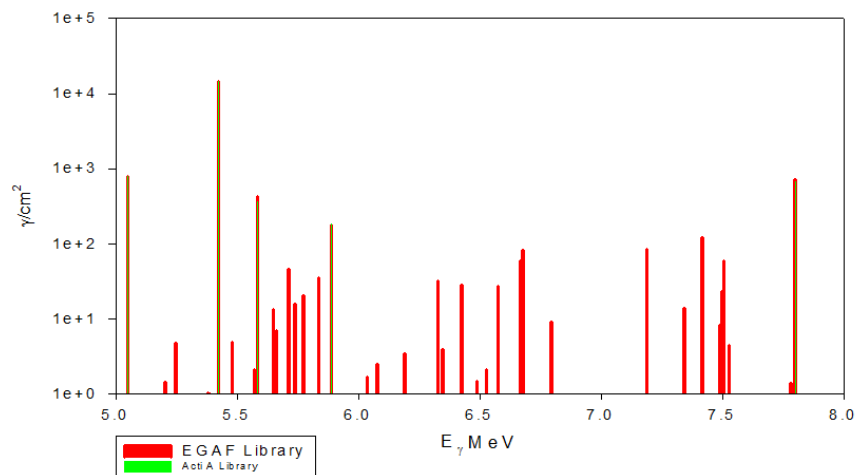
Used in ANY spectroscopy application, Emergency response, Safeguards, etc.



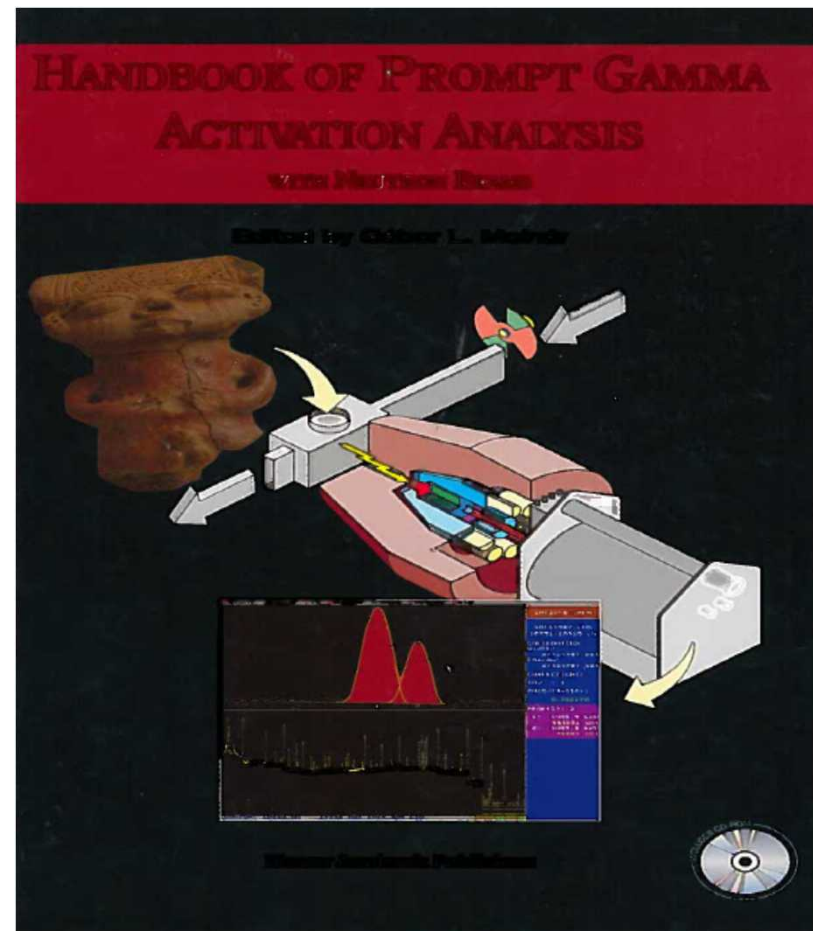
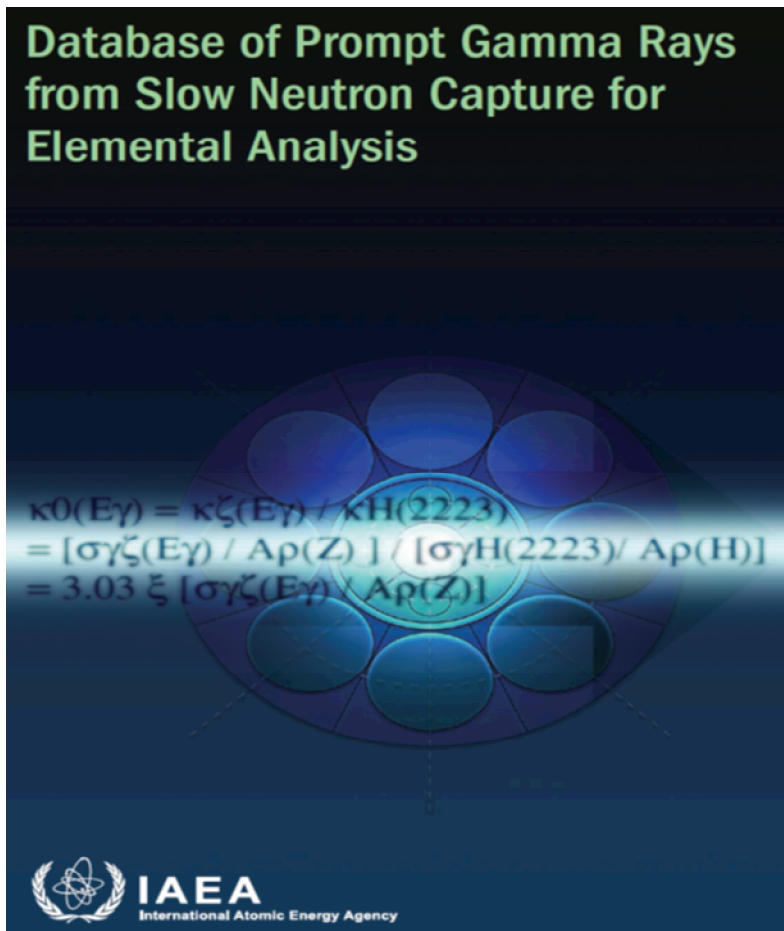
# Examples of Missing Capture Data and some improvements for Transport Applications



Some libraries have no spectra P,  
(Actinides)  
Others have poor resolution,  
missing lines, etc.



# IAEA CRP Capture Gamma Spectra for ~260 Nuclei 36K lines ~ Budapest Reactor Measurements + FRMII



Rick Firestone, Tamas Belgya, Zsolt Revay, et. al.

# Evaluated Gamma-Ray Activation File (EGAF)

- Cross correlated with ENSDF decay schemes
- Put into ENDF libraries for transport modeling to be in next ENDF release and 1<sup>st</sup> libraries available through BNL now

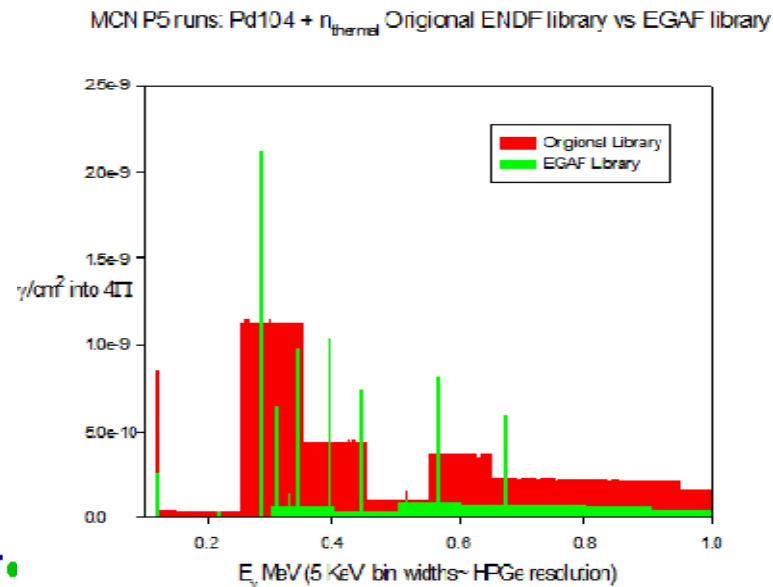
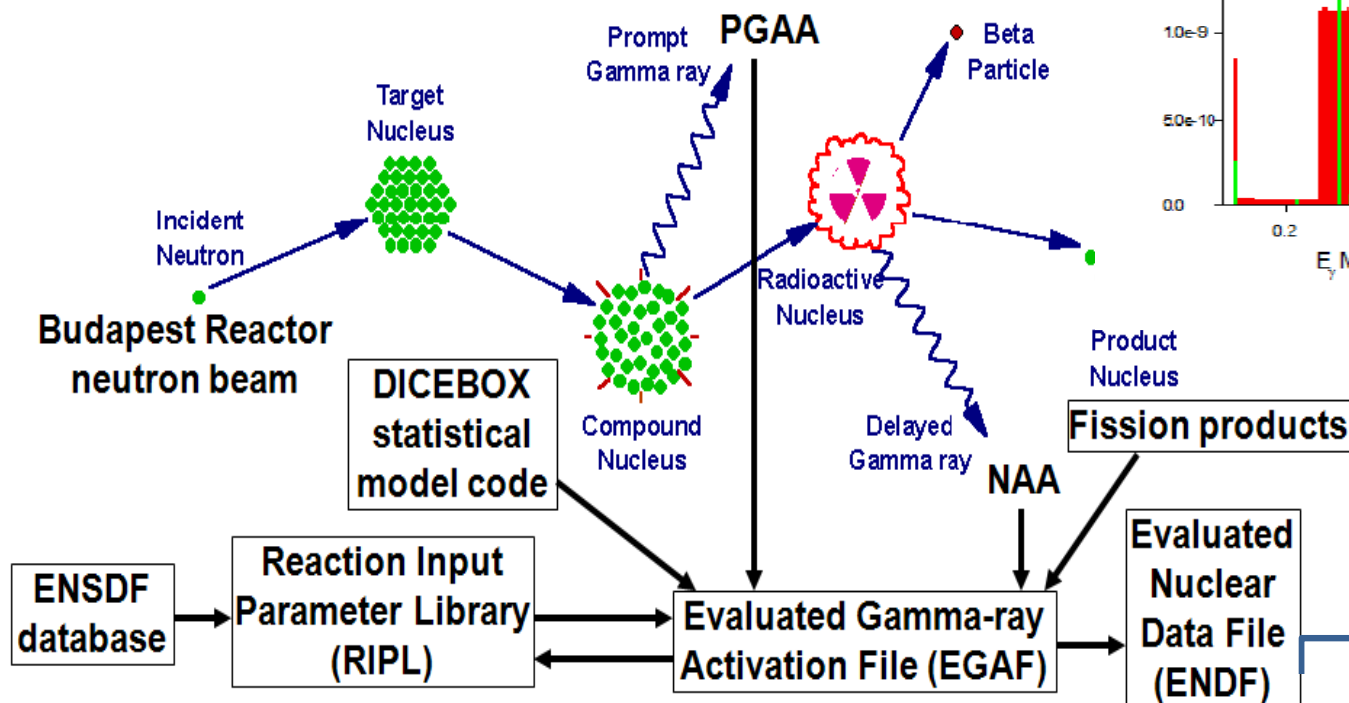
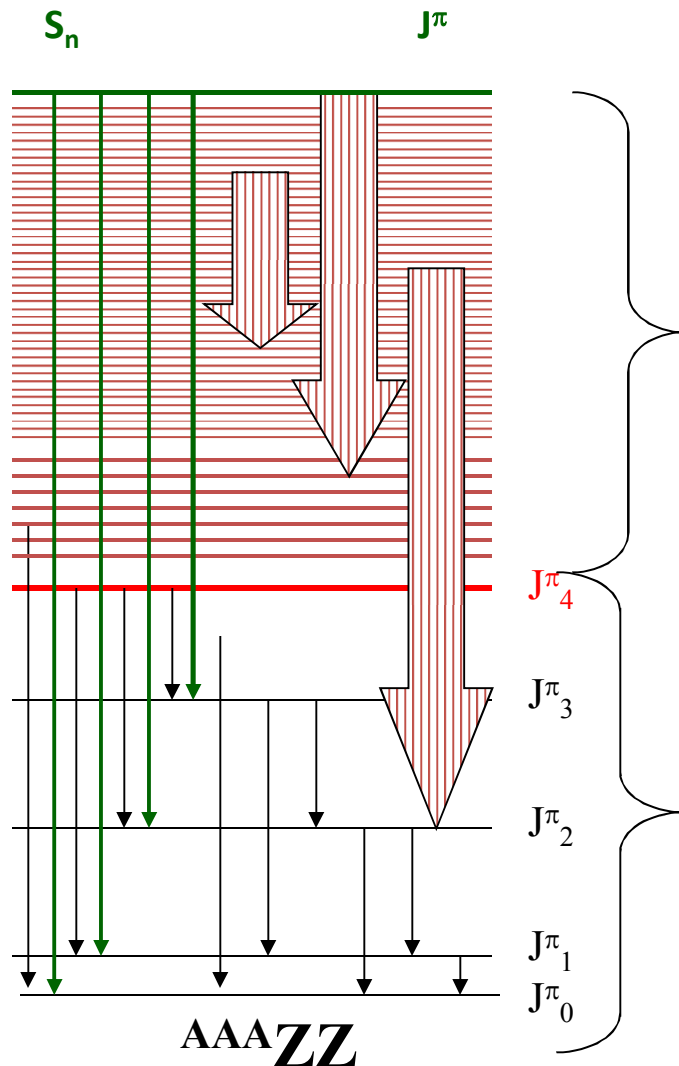


Figure 2

# Gamma Cascade Quasi-Continuum in Medium-Heavy Nuclei modeled with Extreme Statistical model Dicebox (F. Becvar, M. Krticka)



Thermal neutron capture state energy and  $J^\pi$  value(s) are taken from experiment if known.

Monte-Carlo cascade: Capture- $\rightarrow$ Ground State

Continuum=Energy bins above critical energy

Partial widths calculated from presumed known level density and Strength function models

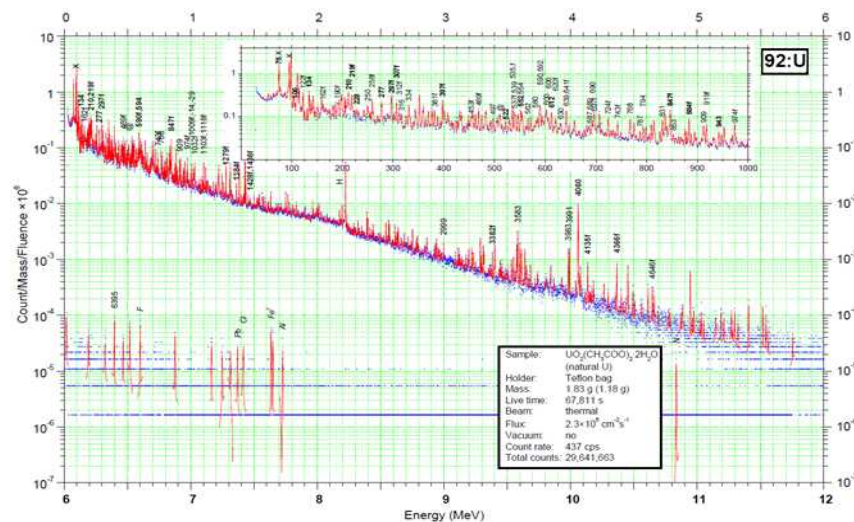
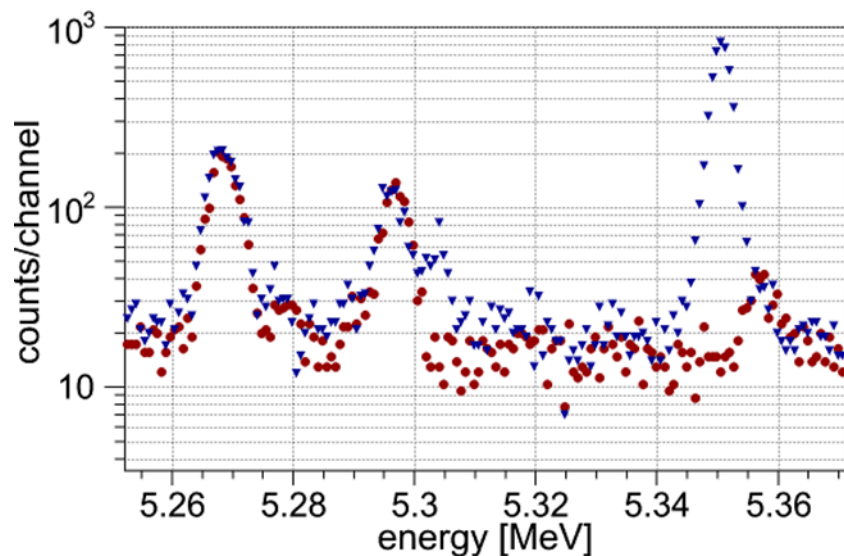
EGAF Data experimentally measured below critical energy

Total feeding to ground state now available= $\sigma_{\text{total}}$

# Thermal Capture Gammas from Actinides

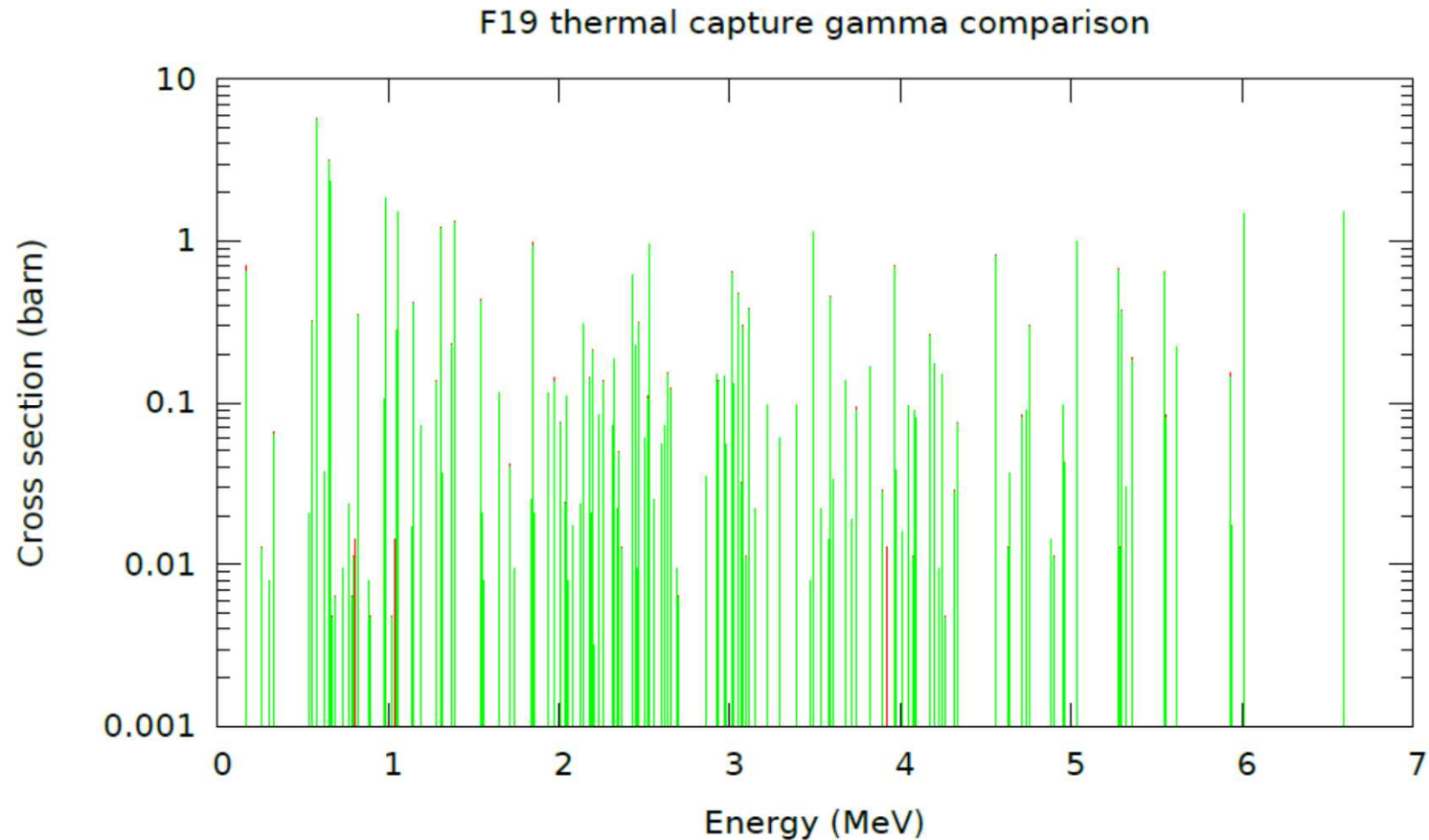
## New experimental Data being evaluated

Probable Primary Np237 line at 5.35 MeV      U235 Capture line @ 6.395 MeV is 4 mb



There are no high resolution capture gamma lines in the major actinides in ENDF

# F had few changes



# 26 beta Libraries in testing->2 to BNL (Feb 2015)

Z		A	%NA	barns	number of Gammas
1	H	1	99.9844	0.33260	1
1	D	2	0.01557	0.00052	1
3	Li	6	7.589	0.04000	3
3	Li	7	92.411	0.05000	3
4	Be	9	100	0.01000	12
5	B	10	19.82	0.50000	9
5	B	11	80.18	0.01000	9
6	C	12	98.892	0.00353	6
7	N	14	99.6337	0.08000	60
8	O	16	99.7628	0.00019	4
9	F	19	100	0.00960	165
11	Na	23	100	0.53000	233
12	Mg	24		0.06000	283
13	Al	27	100	0.23000	291
14	Si	28	92.2297	0.18000	54
15	P	31	100	0.17000	202
16	S	32		0.53000	470
17	Cl	35	75.771	45.55000	383
17	Cl	37	24.229	0.43000	77
26	Fe	56	91.75	2.59000	193
46	Pd	104	11.14	0.60000	13
74	W	182	26.4985	19.90000	126
74	W	183	14.3136	10.30000	212
74	W	184	30.6422	1.70000	64
74	W	186	28.4259	38.50000	152
82	Pb	207	22.0827	0.62500	25





# Capture Gamma Applications-Active Interrogation



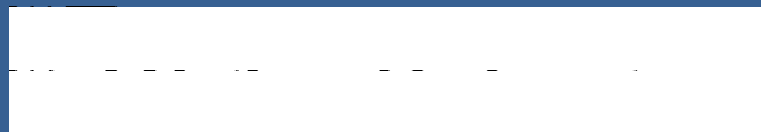
Evaluating munitions for presence of explosives, chemical or nerve agents

Idaho National Lab-  
80 units in use worldwide

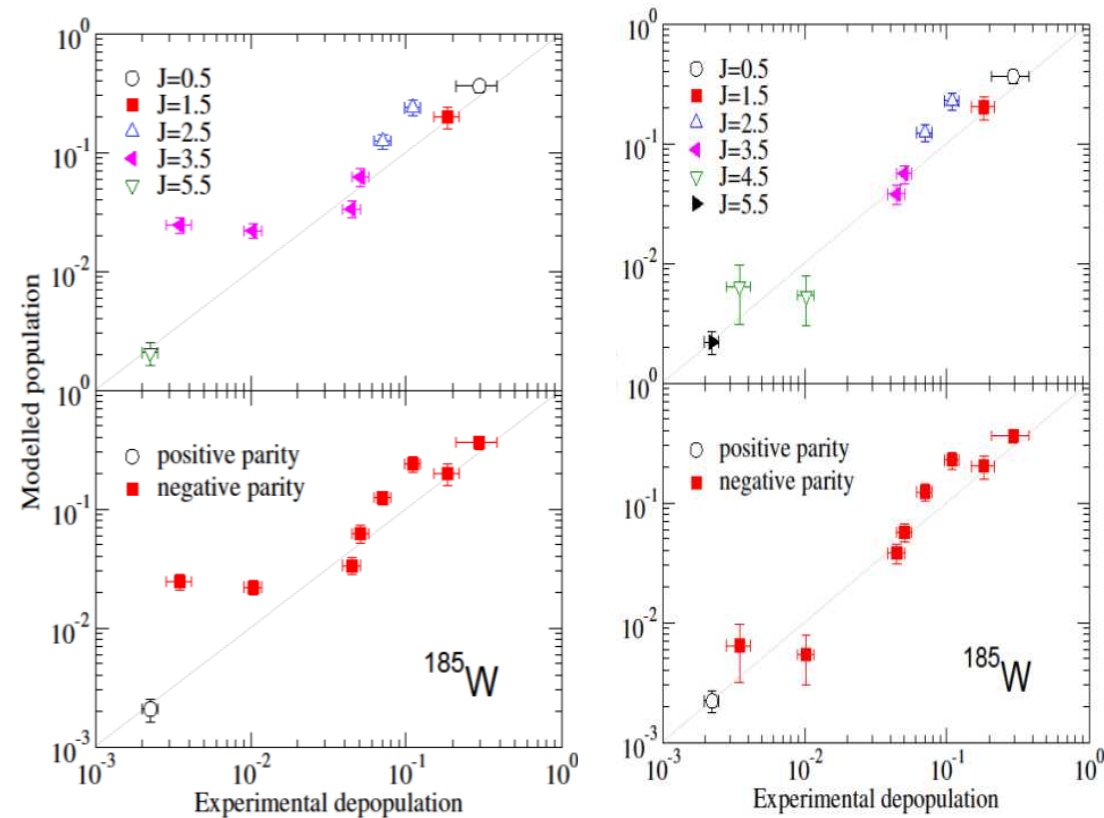
Spontaneous Fission, DD and  
DT neutron sources used

Gus Caffrey, Ed Seabury, INL

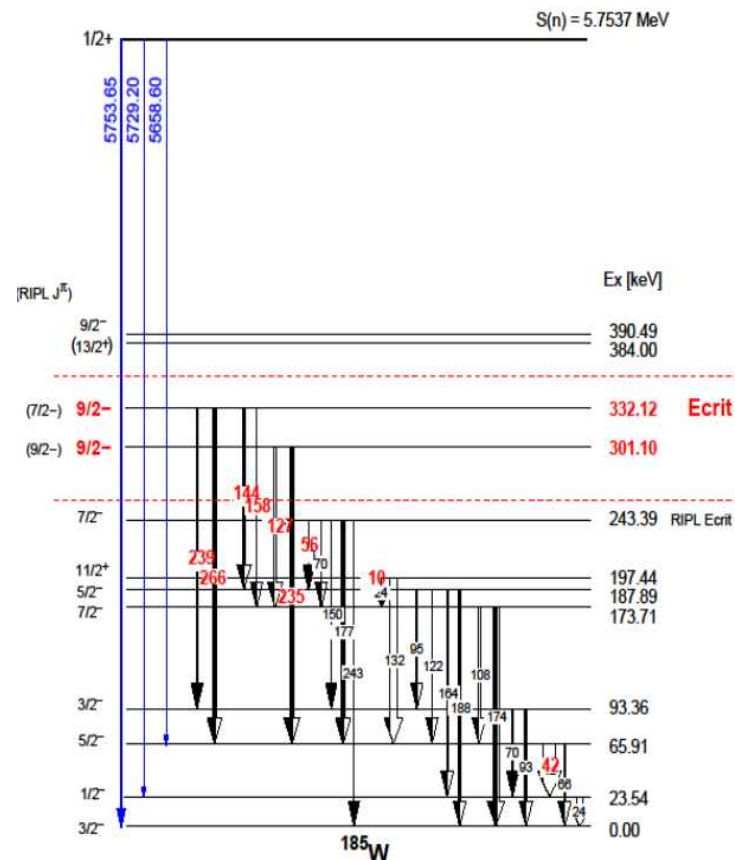




# IAEA/EGAF targets are Elemental-ENDF libraries are Isotopic: Tungsten ENSDF Data had inaccuracies, $^{185}\text{W}$ , 9 levels below Ecrit– Dicebox population feeding vs Experimental depopulation



Aaron Hurst, et. al.



# Neutron Spectra from Passive and Active Sources:

IAEA data is thermal reactor neutrons-Capture Dominates

Passive counting is mostly Spontaneous Fission neutrons

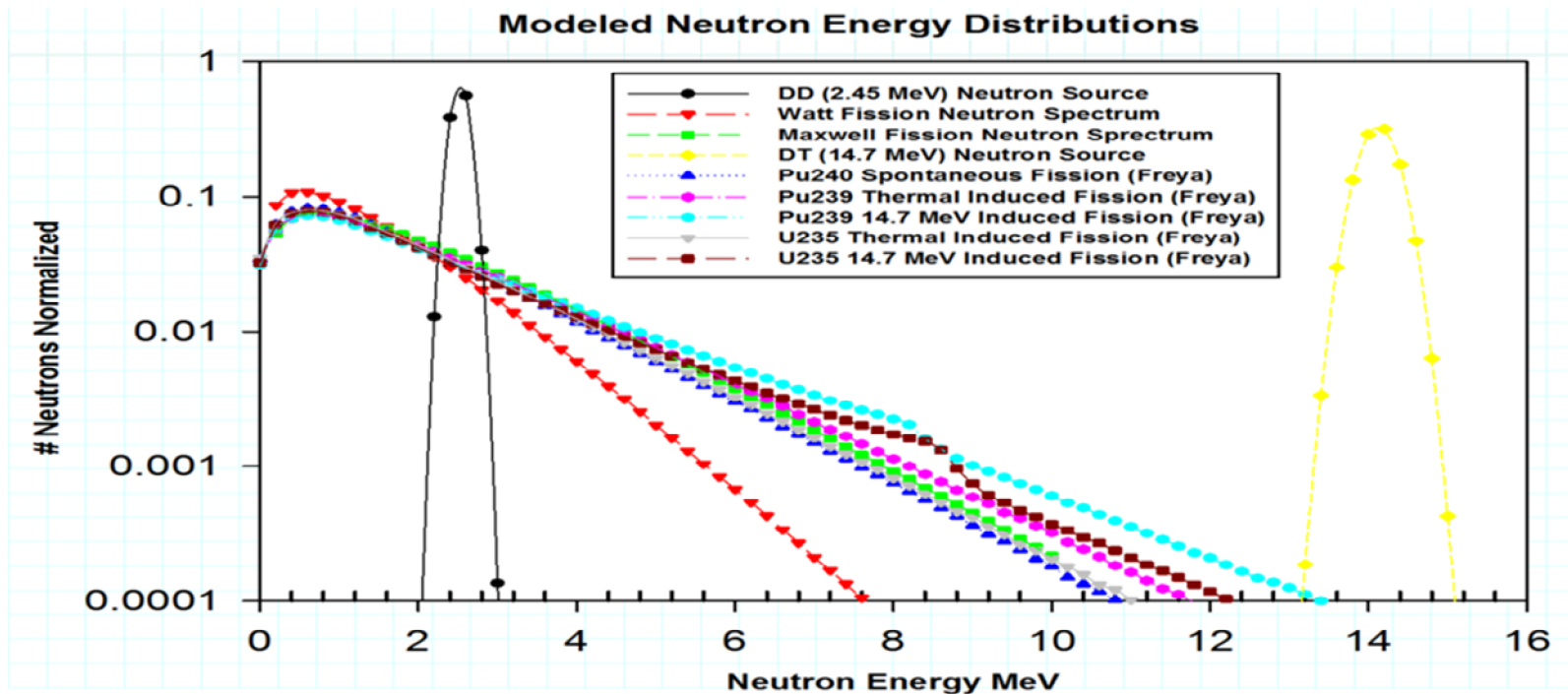
Active interrogation:

DD spectra 2.45 MeV

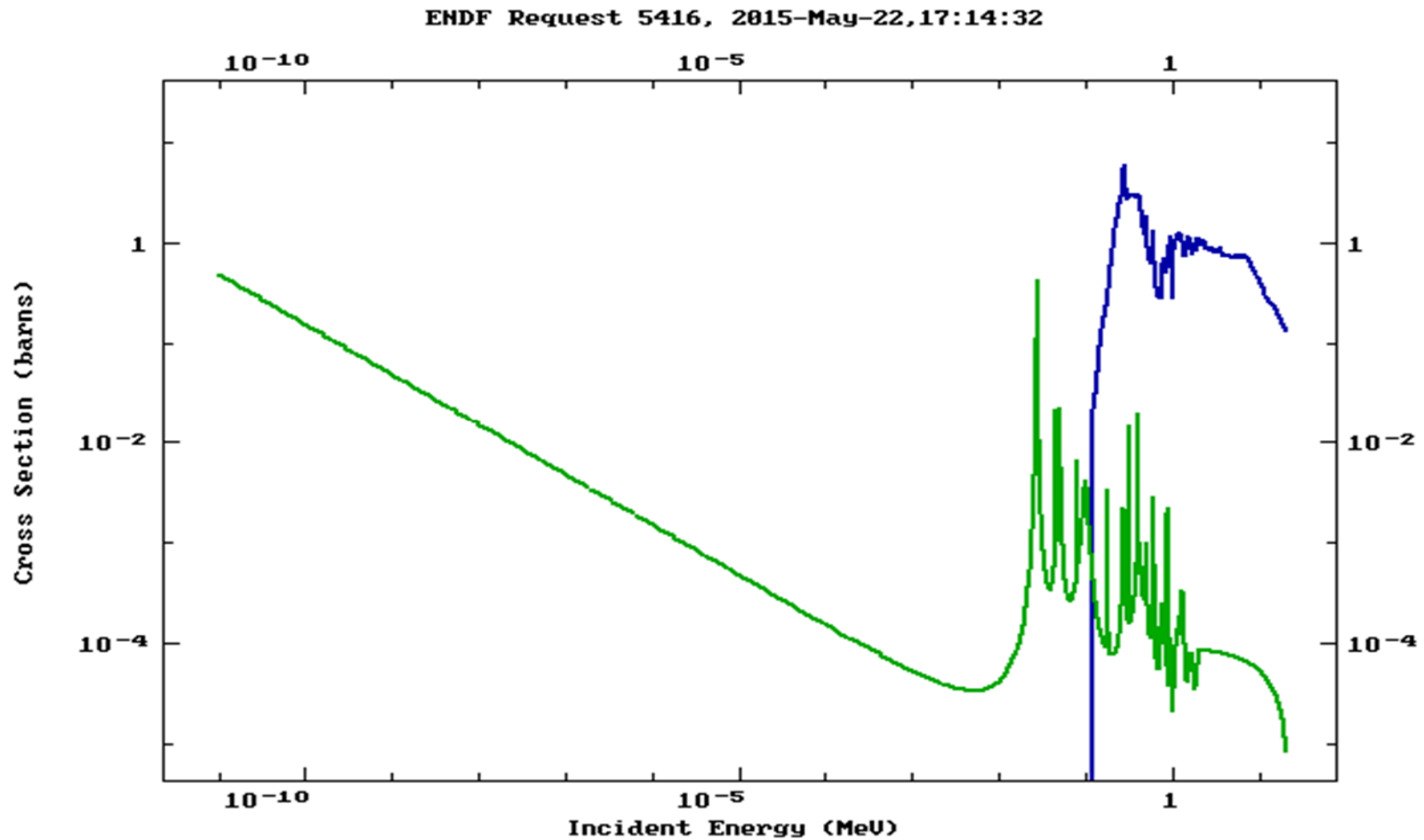
DT spectra 14 MeV

National Ignition Facility is special case

Neutrons thermalize on  $\sim\mu\text{s}$  time scale



# At Higher Neutron Energies Inelastic lines dominate



# A Carefully Done 1978 Atlas of HPGe Spectra from ~ 700 keV Neutrons: another Useful Database?

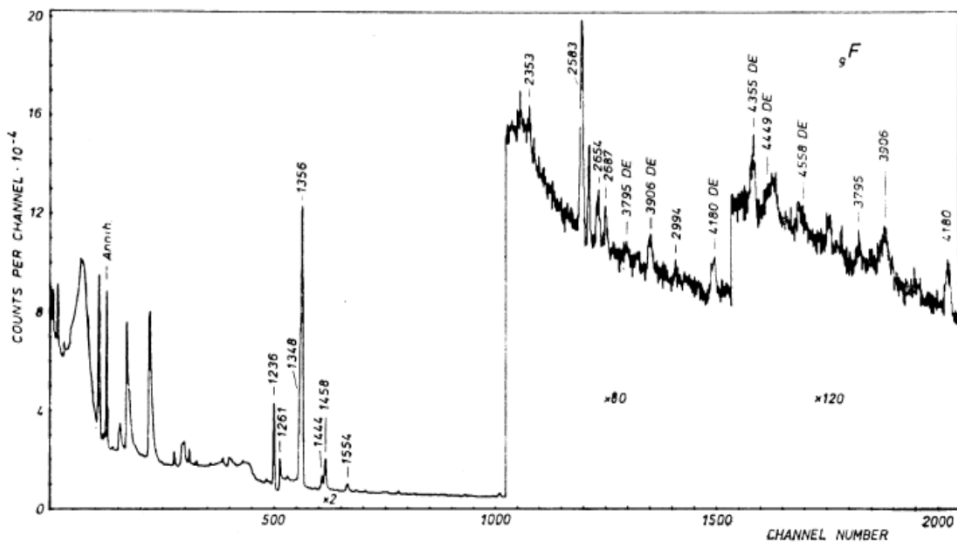
## ATLAS OF GAMMA-RAY SPECTRA FROM THE INELASTIC SCATTERING OF REACTOR FAST NEUTRONS

Level scheme of  $^{19}\text{F}$  [72A]

$E_i$	$E_i^a$	$J_i^\pi$	$E_T$	$I_T$	$E_f$	$J_f^\pi$	$P_s$
109.9	109.893	1/2-	—	—	—	—	—
197.1 (2)	197.147	5/2+	197.1	2700	0	1/2+	2390
1345.74 (10)	1345.72	5/2-	1235.80	100	109.9	1/2-	91
1458.4 (4)	1458.5	3/2-	1458.4	33	0	1/2+	173
			1348.0	120	109.9	1/2-	
			1261.1	20	197.1	5/2+	
1553.9 (5)	1554.1	3/2+	1554.0	8.0	0	1/2+	286
			1444.0	15	109.9	1/2-	
			1356.5	265	197.1	5/2+	
2779.9 (3)	1779.80	9/2+	2582.6	20	197.1	5/2+	20
3906.2 (15)	3907.1	3/2(+)	3905.9	3.5	0	1/2+	6.5*
			3794.9	1.0	109.9	1/2-	
			2352.6	1.0	1553.9	3/2+	
3999.6 (6)	3998.5	7/2-	2653.8	5.4	1345.7	5/2-	6.8*
4032.5 (6)	4032.5	9/2-	2686.6	3.7	1345.7	5/2-	3.7
4377.9 (16)	4377.7	7/2+	4180.2	3.0	197.1	5/2+	4.0*
4552.4 (225)	4555	5/2+	4354.8	2.0	197.1	5/2+	3.0*
4558.9 (5)	4557.5	3/2-	4558.3	2.0	0	1/2+	4.9*
			4449.3	2.0	109.9	1/2-	

A. Demidov, et. al. Kurchatov Institute, Moscow

# **$^{19}\text{F}$ Spectra Atlas 2 ENDF?**



# Atlas (n,n')

ENDF (n,n')

Fluorine			MF3 MT51	1.099000+5
<u>197.1</u>	<u>8.17E-01</u>		<u>52</u>	<u>1.970000+5</u>
1235.8	3.03E-02			
1261.1	6.05E-03			
<u>1348</u>	<u>3.63E-02</u>		<u>53</u>	<u>-1.346000+6</u>
1356.5	8.02E-02			
1444	4.54E-03			
<u>1458.4</u>	<u>9.98E-03</u>		<u>54</u>	<u>-1.459000+6</u>
<u>1554</u>	<u>2.42E-03</u>		<u>55</u>	<u>-1.554000+6</u>
2352.6	3.03E-04		56	-2.780000+6
2582.6	6.05E-03			
2653.8	1.63E-03			
2686.6	1.12E-03			
2993.6	3.33E-04			
3794.9	3.03E-04			
<u>3905.9</u>	<u>1.06E-03</u>		<u>57</u>	<u>-3.907000+6</u>
			58	-3.999000+6
4180.2	9.08E-04		59	-4.032000+6
4354.8	6.05E-04		60	-4.378000+6
4449.3	6.05E-04		61	-4.549000+6
<u>4558.3</u>	<u>6.05E-04</u>		<u>62</u>	<u>-4.558000+6</u>
			63	-4.648000+6
			64	-4.683000+6
			65	-5.106000+6
			66	-5.366000+6

## Fluorine

**9F**

$E_T$	$I_T$	$E_i$	$E_T$	$I_T$	$E_i$
197.1 (2)	2700 (200)	197.1	2653.8 (5)	5.4 (13)	3999.6
1235.80 (10)	100	1345.7	2686.6 (5)	3.7 (13)	4032.5
1261.1 (3)	20 (4)	1458.4	2993.6 (20)	1.1 (3)	
1348.0 (5)	120 (30)	1458.4	3794.9 (15)	1.0 (2)	3906.2
1356.5 (5)	265 (60)	1553.9	3905.9 (15)	3.5 (18)	3906.2
1444.0 (4)	15 (5)	1553.9	4180.2 (15)	3.0 (8)	4377.9
1458.4 (4)	33 (6)	1458.4	4354.8 (25)	2.0 (10)	4552.4
1554.0 (6)	8.0 (22)	1553.9	4449.3 (25)	2.0 (10)	4558.9
2352.6 (12)	1.0 (3)	3906.2	4558.3 (25)	2.0 (10)	
2582.6 (2)	20 (3)	2779.9			

## Attempts at modeling spectra not convincing

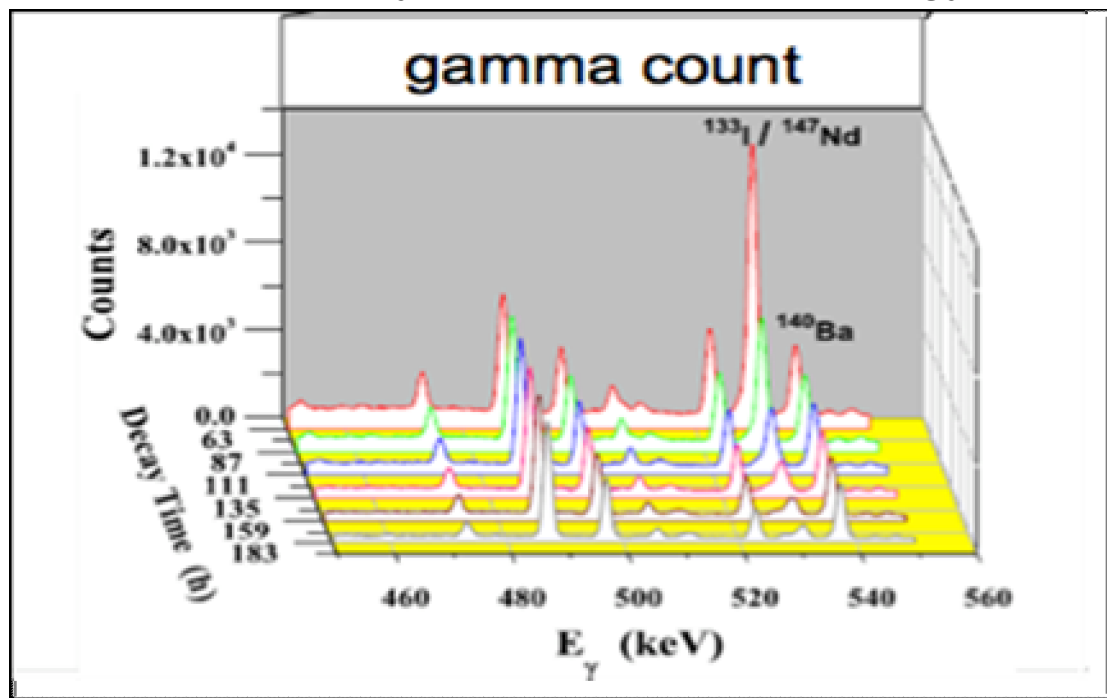
### Cascades/cross sections not matching up?

## ENDF references ORNL measurements using NaI gamma spectrometers?

## Definitely Worth Further Evaluation

# Improved High Resolution Gamma Spectra of Fission Products-What Actinide?

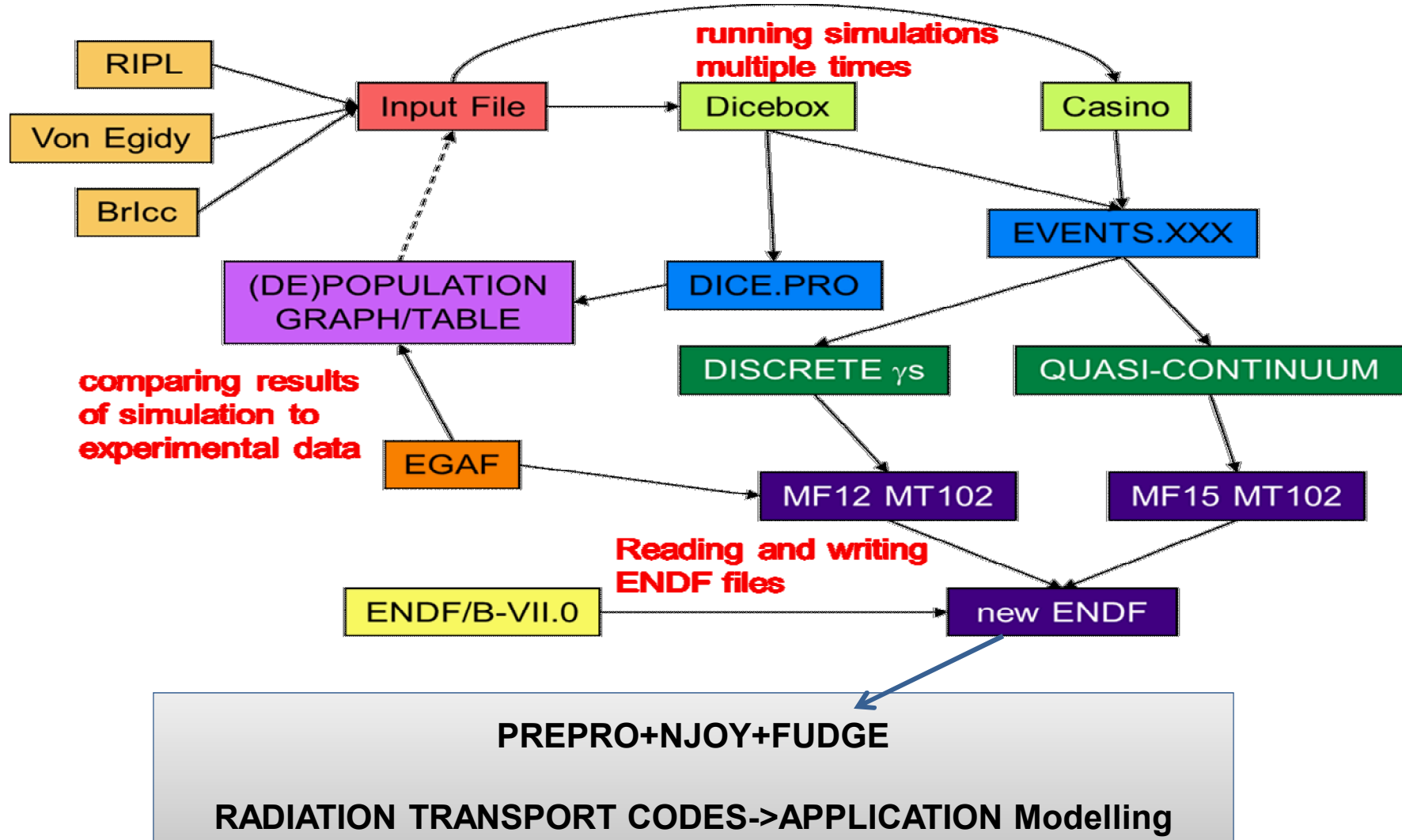
State of the Art New Spectroscopy data: Time Dependent HPGe spectra from 15 High Yield Fission Products from  $^{235}\text{U}$ ,  $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  Fissioned by 5 narrow Neutron Energy Distributions



This New data should be in ENDF+233U, other Pu,  $^{237}\text{Np}$

A. Tonchev, et. al.

# Evaluation Automation



Neil Summers, Brad Sleaford, LLNL



